

### **Remarks**

The instant Office Action dated March 26, 2009, listed the following rejections: claims 1-2, 4-8, 10-14, 16-18 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over the Sherwood reference (“Predictor-Directed Stream Buffers”); and claims 3, 9, 15 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the Sherwood reference in view of Handy (the Cache Memory Book). Applicant traverses all of the rejections and, unless explicitly stated by the Applicant, does not acquiesce to any objection, rejection or averment made in the Office Action.

Applicant respectfully traverses the § 102(b) and § 103(a) rejections because the cited Sherwood reference either alone or in combination with the Handy reference lacks correspondence. For example, neither of the asserted references teaches the claimed invention “as a whole” (§ 103(a)) including, *e.g.*, claimed aspects directed to only allowing accesses to the SPT in response to the detection of a cache miss. Because neither reference teaches these aspects, no reasonable interpretation of the asserted prior art, taken alone or in combination, can provide correspondence. As such, the rejections fail.

The Examiner acknowledges that the Sherwood reference, construed broadly relative to Applicant’s claimed invention, at most teaches at p. 5 (under “Lookup”) access of the Markov table outside of a cache miss and further teaches “explicitly that the SPT is only updated upon a cache miss.” *See* Office Action at p. 9. Contrary to the claimed invention, the Sherwood reference teaches that its SPT is accessed once “each cycle...to make a prediction” and because of its every-cycle occurrence, this SPT access necessarily occurs at times other than in response to a detected cache miss. *See* the previous Office Action Responses and Sections 4.2 and 4.4 of the Sherwood reference. Accordingly, the Sherwood based rejections should be reversed because they do not provide correspondence.

In view of the remarks above, Applicant believes that each of the rejections has been overcome and the application is in condition for allowance. Should there be any remaining issues that could be readily addressed over the telephone, the Examiner is asked to contact the agent overseeing the application file, Peter Zawilski, of NXP Corporation at (408) 474-9063.

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